



The Scribe

Generation II, Vol. 3, No. 14

May 8, 1997

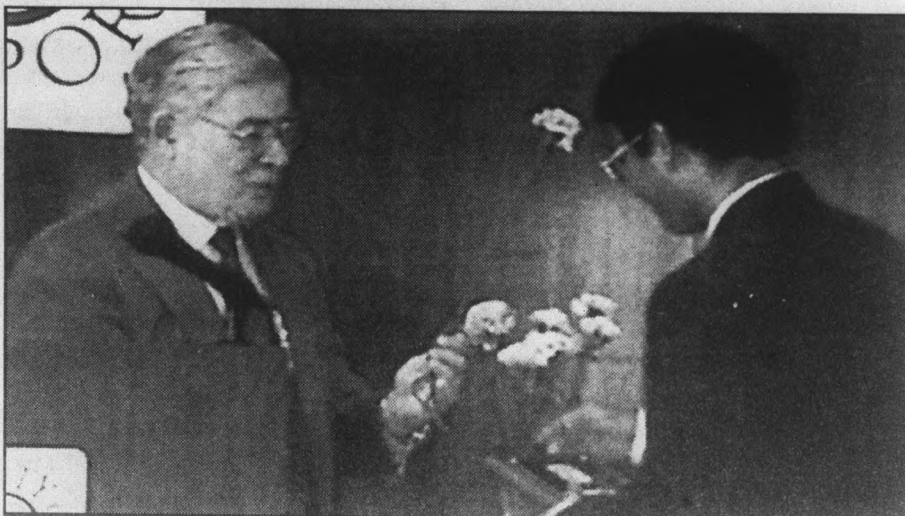
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UB Recognizes Student Leaders

by Sharon Loh

On April 30, UB recognized its student leaders in the annual Student Leadership Award ceremony. The ceremony which took place at 4 p.m. was held in the Tower Room of the Arnold Bernhard Center.

Senior Anuj Shroff, a computer science and engineering major was awarded the President's Award by President Rubenstein. The award is given to a graduating senior who has made outstanding contributions to the UB community. Shroff has been involved with the Student Congress for three years and is currently the Vice-president of the Student Congress. Among many of his other activities, he was a member of the Scribe. Monalisa Basu was presented the Dean's Award by Dean Janet Merritt. She was a previous recipient of the Gregory Zec award, is listed in the Who's Who in American Colleges for two years consecutively, involved herself in Student



Shroff, recipient of the President's Award, receiving his plaque from the President

Congress activities actively for two years, and also was a member of the Scribe.

Refreshments were served and students and faculty intermingled right before the ceremony started with the Master of Ceremony Professor John Nicholas introducing the whole event.

President Rubenstein came up next for a opening remarks and greetings.

Edina R. Oestreicher, director of student development and organizer of the Student Leadership Award ceremony explained the award selection process, where the UB faculty is to nominate

students whom they believe are student leaders. These nominees will be later voted in by the Student Leadership Awards Committee which this year consisted of Jocelyn Poisson, Director of the Fones School of Dental Hygiene, Roxy Ray, co-director of the Academic Resource Center, Pat Shuster, Director of the campus Health Center, George Blake, Director of General Studies and Edina Oestreicher.

Student Congress was then acknowledged as the representatives and leaders of the student body and certificates were presented to the congress members by the Student Congress advisor, Professor Hans van der Giessen. Presidents of clubs and other student organizations were then presented by the Student Leadership Award committee. The committee also awarded nominees of the awards with certificates acknowledging their leadership qualities and contributions to the community.

Louis Ray, President of the Black Student Alliance, was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Award by co-

See Leaders page 9

New Student Congress Elected



Justin Harding
President Elect



Toyohiro Miyata
Vice President Elect



Dalia Hernandez
Speaker of the House Elect

by Daniel Chin

The Student Congress elections were held on April 27 and 28. Among the positions that were open for election were President of Student Congress, Senior Class President, and Senators for all the schools. In all, 21 positions were on the voting blocks. The number of people running for positions was a vast increase over previous years, reflecting the school's growth. A total of 38 candidates ran, and students nominated 4 write-in candidates.

Because of the continued growth of the University, student elections continue to grow as well. These elections very clearly showed the efforts of the students involved by the numerous flyers, banners, and even door-to-door handouts. The Student Congress controls the use of funds dedicated to student life.

The most important positions are seats on Executive Board. This is the name for

the positions of President, Vice President, and Speaker of the House. The Presidency was taken by Justin Harding, winning over Franck Ajisegbe, the incumbent, and Syed (Ali) Tirmizi. Toyohiro Miyata, the current Speaker of the House, won the Vice Presidency. Dalia Hernandez was elected as the new Speaker of the House.

Presidential nominee Justin Harding is willing to take suggestions for what needs improvement on campus. He has already shown that he is willing to work for the betterment of the campus. Justin has led many service projects and is a member of the South End Public Safety Committee.

"The first order of business is to recreate the functions of Student Congress to focus on campus life and academics." When asked about current projects and committees and whether they will be supported next year, he said, "Committees will be made as they are needed, as put forth by the students. They (the students)

know more about what needs to be done than me."

Harding wishes to change the current structure of the Student Congress, SCBOD and other organizations. "For the last four years, the situation was terrible. SCBOD and other clubs had to ask for money from the Student Congress to do what they wanted. In many cases a SCBOD party or other activity could not take place because Congress would not allocate money. A better way would be if the groups received separate funding from the Administration."

None of the Executive Board electees are strangers to Student Congress. Justin has been Sophomore class President and Junior class President in the past. V.P. elect Toyohiro Miyata served as Speaker of the House for the 96-97 year. Dalia has the least experience of the group, having only briefly served as Executive Secretary.

UB Graduate Governs U.S. Army National Guard

by Nikolai Kravet

He is "individual number one," as his colleagues say in the Army National Guard. He walked all the way from the Puerto Rican National Guard, through Vietnam and Germany, to the Pentagon, and is now thinking of retiring and a second career.

He has a graduate degree in management engineering from the University of Bridgeport, but for the first time visited the school six months ago.

He is Major General William Navas, director of the Army National Guard, who supervises 1,000 people and manages a \$5.5 billion budget.

A native of Puerto Rico, General Navas attended UB's graduate courses between 1977 and 1980, when the university used to have programs in Puerto Rico. He was a practicing engineer at that time with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, but did not stop at that point.

"One of the reasons for attending the courses UB offered was my ambition to be competitive with my peers in the army," General Navas said in a special interview with *The Scribe*.

See UB Alumni, page 8

News

Job Fair Brings Job Opportunities to the UB Students and the Community

by Naing Lynn

On Tuesday, April 29, representatives from over 70 companies gathered in the Wheeler Recreation Center of the University of Bridgeport to offer job opportunities and career outlooks for the students of UB as well as to the community. It was organized by Janet Merritt, dean of students.

This job fair was put together by the American Job Fairs company from New York, which specializes in arranging job fairs. UB made a contract with the company and the company put together over 70 companies to come to campus. American Job Fairs also advertised the fair at the University to the outside community.

Many staffing companies such as Accountemps, Corporate Staffing Solutions, Eden Staffing Services, PHD-Professional Help Desk, Source Services Inc, and many others attended the fair to find matching jobs and provide employment services to the students. Many other well known companies like People's Bank, Rytech International, Tech-Aid, Norrell Services, John Hancock, CompUSA, Bell Atlantic, AT&T, and American Express were also present there looking for positions ranging from office assistants and sales persons to many managerial positions.

Many people who attended the fair had a chance to meet with the companies that suit their employment needs since

there are a variety of careers opportunities that are being offered. Many companies had positions available for internships, co-op work study programs, and permanent positions for those students who will be graduating this year.

The event was a success for almost all the people who attended the fair. They were happy with the variety that the fair offered, but some were unhappy since there were only a few companies related to their major. Many engineering students were unhappy with the fact that there were only a handful of engineering and science oriented companies and staffing agencies presented at the fair.

According to Shai Bar-Nefy, who is a computer engineering major, lack of engineering and science oriented companies at the job fair could "mislead the fact that engineering is becoming one of the most demanded careers in the American job markets nowadays, and it was also a discouraging experience for many engineering and science students."

According to Dean Merritt, this is the first job fair to be organized by an outside company. Formerly, job fairs were organized by the Director of Career Services and at present UB is still looking for a suitable person for the post. Dean Merritt also said that she and the Student Development Office staff used to organize the fair but there were not enough time and staff members this year.

"The fair went very well, and I was

pleased that so many companies were happy to come to UB and present their companies to the students and the community," said Dean Merritt. She also added that many students that she spoke with were happy with the event and were glad to see so many companies come to the university.

Professor Tracy Rigia of the Fashion Merchandising Department, who is also responsible for the co-op work study program, said that she thinks the "students' reactions were good and constructive." She hopes that students comments could be used to make next year's job fair a more relevant one for the students.

She also mentioned that the fair gave her a chance for networking so that she could contact those companies in the future for job placements. According to her, the employers that she spoke to are impressed with the students from UB and they enjoyed the diverse student body and the talents that come along with it. "The success of the event will not be known until June when all the summer internships and co-op job placements would be done, but many students that I talked to are getting interviews with the employers from the job fair," said Rigia.

It was also an opportunity the UB and the Admissions office to show the campus and the programs offered at the University since the fair brought in many people from the communities around Bridgeport area.

Letter from the Editor



Sharon Loh
Editor of The Scribe

The academic year has come and gone. Freshmen have settled into their regular routines, while the seniors look back at UB and realize that it has been a part

of their living history, and however much they might or might not regret it, it cannot be erased.

This year has been a year of frenzy for many, with the 70's parties, stand-up comedy, SCUBA's gatherings, rallies and musicals, hiring and resigning of faculty, elections and recognition of student leaders. Even the Above and Beyond awards have come and gone.

Like everything else, this year has also come and gone. So has the Scribe with the 14 issues we were obligated to do and its endless sleepless nights that came along with it.

The academic year ends in about 24 hours, and we will go on to get tans and enjoy the summer. So why not get on with life and get the best out of it before the painful cycle of another academic year

Rev. Moon Challenges Faculty

by Justin Harding

The University of Bridgeport's largest benefactor held a dinner party for university staff and faculty. East Garden, the estate of Rev. & Mrs. Sung Myung Moon, was the hosting ground for over 130 Bridgeport faculty and staff. Dinner commenced promptly at seven after Neil Salonen, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, introduced each faculty and staff member through a receiving line to Rev. and Mrs. Moon and they then shook hands.

Students from UB's music department provided flute and piano music to accompany a sophisticated dinner. Apparently, one entree, a Stripped Bass sushi, was caught by Rev. Moon himself and served fresh at the dinner.

Professor Ted Piltzecker led the evening's entertainment by performing two pieces on his vibraphone. Following this, the first place winners of the International Festival performance competition; Japan, led by Kenichi Ebina, put on a new dance with traditional masks and costumes.

Two prominent leaders within the Unification Movement made presentations after Dr. Rubenstein gave a warm "Thank you" to Rev. and Mrs. Moon for hosting the event. "Without your support all of these talents would be elsewhere, but now we are

all working together for the future vision of UB." In addition, President Rubenstein recognized two candidates who will receive honorary degrees at UB.

A professor who chose to remain anonymous said "The dinner was excellent and so was the dance, but he (Dr. Seuk) needed to attend a public speaking class." The professor was referring to Dr. Joon Ho Seuk, the Director of the International Education Foundation, an educational organization of the Unification Movement responsible for publishing and distributing character and moral based curriculums in the former Soviet bloc nations and in mainland China. Another professor, Dr. Angela Santiago agreed. "The food was great and the evening a good experience."

Mr. Joo, Director of the Washington Times Newspaper Corp., spoke about the difficult development of this conservative Washington voice. "At first, Speaker of the House, Tip O' Neal, would say to our reporters 'the House doesn't deal with 'moonie' reporters'. Now we've come so far that even Hillary Rodham Clinton has asked to write a column in our paper!"

The pointed pinnacle of the evening came when Rev. Moon addressed his guests. "You've been sitting down for three hours since dinner listening to all these reports, would you like a snack? Or would

you rather hear a challenging theological sermon?" The whispered response from in between the fancy tables was "Snack!"

There were mixed reactions among professors in particular. Many professors expressed a mind of concern over the implications of Moon's hour and twenty-five minute talk. "I agree with the part on family values," commented one. And another "His message was too harsh for those who had chosen to lead individualistic lifestyles"

Rev. Moon has only visited the campus once in five years and then it was to receive an honorary degree. The seventy-seven year old Korean preacher implored UB's staff to become "True Teachers and True Parents" in order to educate future world leaders. This dinner party was the first time that staff members had the opportunity to meet Rev. & Mrs. Moon in person.

The Scribe

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and Entertain

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Co-Editors	Johanna J. Hose Sharon Loh
News Editor	Nickolai Kralev
Entertainment Editor	Kyle Reeves Surovi Abeyratne
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Susumu Kotegawa	Ashok Regmi
Ayako Kurata	Johanne Torres

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244 University Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06601.

Tel: (203) 576-4382

Fax: (203) 576-4485

E-mail: scribe@cse.bridgeport.edu

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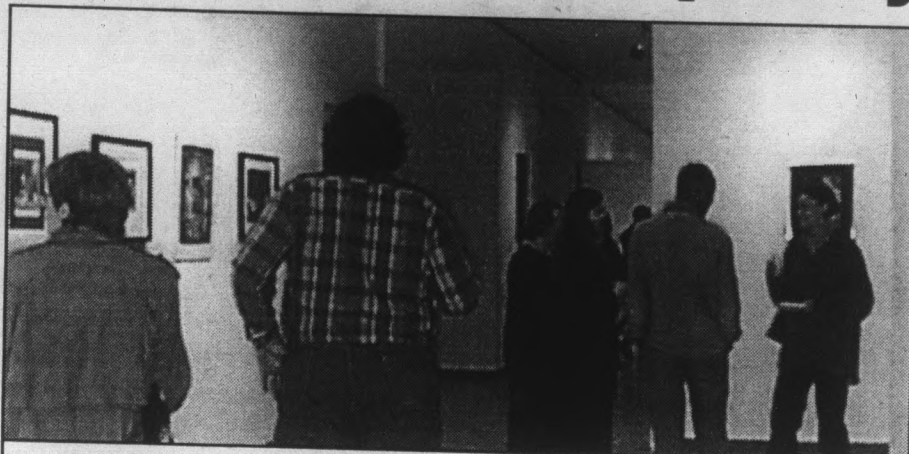
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Senior 97 Show and Contemporary Visions'97

by Jorge Benitez.

On May 3rd, The University Gallery held a reception where known artists as well as graduating seniors exhibited their work. The University Gallery, located in the Arnold Bernhard Center, has just overcome a major renovation that included the polishing of the wooden floors, new lighting, and other repairs, which make the gallery look exceptional. The gallery improvements are the responsibility of the University Administration and the hard work of students like Brandy Devoid and Luisa Guzman.

The reception that began at 2 p.m. included important figures of the University, as well as other renowned personalities such



Guests at the Reception of the Reopening of UB's Art Gallery

as Dr. Judy Collischan. She was invited to assist the opening of the gallery as a Juror of the Contemporary Visions'97 Exhibition. She is the Associate Director of

Curatorial Affairs at the Neuberger Museum of Art.

The gallery opened two exhibitions simultaneously. In the main gallery, the

exhibition Contemporary Visions'97 holds pieces from more than twenty-five artists from the area (New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania). The pieces were awarded prizes in different categories and the Best of Show recipient, Paul Tekeuchi will have the opportunity to have a solo exhibition at the University Gallery next semester.

In the smaller gallery, graduating seniors have the opportunity to exhibit their talent in an array of colorful and impressive art pieces. The exhibitors are Johanna Hose, Denise Monteiro, Ana Cardona, Sze Lin Lie, Brandy Devoid, and Hiroaki Yoshizawa. Some of these young artists received offers from personal requests to buying their work. S

UB Volunteer Workers visit St Joseph's Shelter

by Surovi Abeyratne

A group of 40 students from UB visited the St. Joseph's shelter for homeless women and children in Bridgeport on Saturday, March 3. This visit, coordinated by Edina Oestreicher was initiated by AmeriCares, an Internationally renowned, private, non-profit, humanitarian organization.

Its domestic projects include helping people who are in the low income group and elderly, ill or single parents, by repairing their homes to keep them safe, warm and dry. This is the first time UB has participated in a nationally recognized volunteer project.

The students who ranged from those in the College of Chiropractic to ELI students, spent a large part of the morning, cleaning and repainting the hallways and stairwells, repairing the kitchen and pantry, and also adding insulation to the basement and fixing the windows in the attic.

According to Oestreicher, the 12 hours they spent at the shelter was not enough as several repairs needed to be completed. As a result the student volunteer team plans to go back again to complete these repairs.

AmeriCares provided the student volunteer team with the provisions and supplies necessary. Oestreicher would like to thank on behalf of her team T-Maria Café who provided the Soda, Marriott who provided the cookies and fruit and Dominos Pizzas for providing the pizza. S

Multiplying ties with our community

by Johanna Hose

The UB Math Academy which started last week on May 1, 1997 offered at Longfellow and Roosevelt Middle and High School. The UB Math Academy is an after school math program for young people in grades 6 through 8.

It was started by Professor Allen Cook, who has taught mathematics courses in the school of Education here at UB for the last 2 semesters. He worked with math coordinators Jorge Pezo from Roosevelt School and Pedro Vasquez from Longfellow school who helped set up and administer the program.

The UB Math Academy holds classes every Wednesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the two above schools and students who attend can have their math skills boosted by traditional and non-traditional methods. Professor Cook said that for UB grad students it would be a "good link between experience and learning in a classroom." S

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Newsroom



World News

Blair's New Labor Wins Landslide and Quickly Takes Power

LONDON (AP) A buoyant Tony Blair became Britain's prime minister today — complete with an invincible majority in Parliament after his Labor Party crushed John Major's long-reigning Conservatives in a landslide.

The Tories had been expected to lose but the scale of their defeat astounded both politicians and the public: It was the worst Conservative trouncing since 1832 and Labor's biggest election triumph ever.

With results in for all of the 659 seats in the House of Commons, Labor had taken 43.1 percent of the vote and 418 seats. The party, born in the mines, mills and docks of industrial Britain had become

the darling of the middle class.

The Conservatives, seeking an unprecedented fifth term, lost more than half their districts and slumped to 165 seats with 30.6 percent of the vote.

Major ended intense speculation about his future, announcing he would step down as Conservative Party leader, then going to Buckingham Palace to tender his resignation to Queen Elizabeth II.

Israeli Army Demolishes Four Palestinian Houses and a Barrack

HEBRON (AP) An Israeli army bulldozer demolished four illegally built Palestinian houses and a shed near the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba on Monday, leaving 28 Palestinians homeless.

In a letter to Israeli officials, Hebron

Mayor Mustafa Natche called the demolitions "an irresponsible act negating the spirit of peace."

The army has demolished 13 houses in the Hebron area since Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government came to power last year, Hebron officials said. Under the previous government of Shimon Peres, there was an understanding that unlicensed homes would not be demolished, they said.

Malaysia To Turn State News Agency into Profit-Making Company

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) Malaysia announced plans Monday to turn its government news agency Bernama into a profit-making company by next January.

The Cabinet will submit its plan to parliament in July, Information Minister Mohamad Rahmat said at a news conference.

Established in 1967, Bernama ran at a loss until 1990, when it began to make a profit. Last year, it made 2 million ringgit (U.S.\$ 800,000).

The company is to remain government-owned, but will no longer be eligible for state subsidies.

Indonesian Siamese Twin Girls Die

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) Siamese girl twins died after their shared heart failed three days after birth, a newspaper reported Monday.

The girls, who weighed a total of 3.1 kilograms (8.8 pounds), were born last Wednesday at the Jakarta Islamic General Hospital, the Jakarta Post said. They died Saturday.

They had separate lungs, spinal columns and digestive systems, but shared a heart and liver, hospital director Sanusi Tamburan told the newspaper.

"We are sad because they were our first babies," their mother, Mujito, was quoted as saying.

Journalist Killed, Two Wounded in Attack on Television Station

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) Masked men attacked a Cambodian television station with grenades and rifle fire, killing one journalist and wounding another, plus a guard in what police today called another case of political violence.

Pich Em, a journalist working for Kompong Som Television in the port of Sihanoukville, 115 miles southwest of Phnom Penh, died of his wounds in a local hospital this afternoon, police said.

He was hit by shrapnel as he was broadcasting the news Sunday night when seven assailants, their faces masked with black cloth, used B-40 and B-41 grenade launchers and AK-47 assault rifles in a military-style attack on the station.

Stanford Is Chelsea's Pick

WASHINGTON (AP) Ending months of speculation and rumor, Chelsea Clinton chose Stanford University as her next home, putting 3,000 miles between her and the iron gates on Pennsylvania Avenue.

"Planes run out there and phones work out there. E-mail works out there, so we'll be all right," President Clinton sighed.

The president's only daughter announced Wednesday in a single-sentence statement from Mom's press office that she would enroll at Stanford next fall.

"I'm just grateful this day has come," said first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton after being questioned almost daily about Chelsea's pick. "I think she wanted to branch out and be her own person ... make her own mark in the world."

The elite California university, with its sunny campus in the foothills south of San Francisco, had received 16,840 applications for just 1,610 freshman slots.

Chelsea, 17, toured the mission-styled campus with her mother last September and returned for a final look by herself only last weekend. Its world-class medical school may have been irresistible to the aspiring doctor; windsurfing classes on the San Francisco Bay could be a tempting side dish.

As a freshman, she will live in a dormitory. And she might want to risk her ballerina's knees and learn to Roller Blade: it's a preferred means of navigating the sprawling campus.

Tuition, books, room and board will set the Clintons back more than \$31,000 a year, and they are unlikely to get a break.

Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Brown and Wellesley all were considered possible picks at one time or another.

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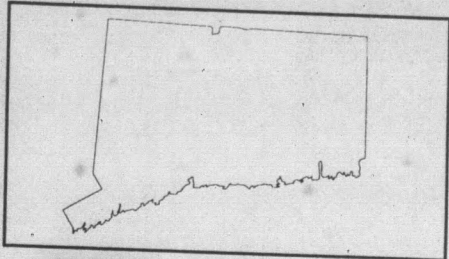
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CT News

Connecticut Has Lowest High School Dropout Rate

Connecticut ranks 12th in the nation when it comes to caring for kids, according to a national study released today.

The report was compiled by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a private charitable organization based in Baltimore. It tracks 10 indicators ranging from dropout rates to infant mortality.

According to the study, Connecticut's dropout rate declined 63 percent between 1985 and 1994, making it the best state in the nation at keeping kids in high school.

Trailer to Monitor Speed on the Road

CROMWELL (AP) Drivers cruising along on certain roads will have their speed

posted for all to see, thanks to a speed-monitoring trailer set up near a busy intersection.

The Mid-State Traffic Enforcement Unit has demonstrated its new tracking system with vehicles driving on Route 372.

Those traveling faster than the limit of 35 mph, saw their speed flashed on a red digital display. Those traveling at or under the speed limit saw their speed in yellow numbers.

Diesel Locomotive Brings a Bit of the Past

TORRINGTON (AP) Residents relived a bit of the past when the Naugatuck Railroad's scenic tourist train chugged into town.

The diesel locomotive with a plush parlor car and three passenger cars is run by the Railroad Museum of New England.

The museum began tourist runs last fall between Waterbury and Thomaston. Torrington will not be a regular stop, but will be the destination for periodic trips.



US News

Clinton, GOP Agree to Balance Budget, Cut Taxes over Five Years

WASHINGTON (AP) President Clinton and Congress' Republican rulers agreed to a far-reaching budget deal that balances the budget in five years and promises significant tax cuts for middle-class families and investors.

Calling the budget "a significant breakthrough for our country," Clinton went about his business today of selling the plan to the nation — and to the lawmakers who must approve it.

"This balanced budget plan is in balance with our values," he said in his weekly radio.

President Ties U.S. Future to That of Mexico

WASHINGTON (AP) Saying this country's future "is tied up with Mexico," President Clinton declared that U.S.-Mexican relations hold much promise for mutual prosperity, despite problems with immigration and drug

trafficking.

The president, who was leaving today on a two-day visit to Mexico, said he is excited about the "enormous positives bespeaking a new partnership" between the neighboring nations — namely the North American Free Trade Agreement, political reform in Mexico and that nation's early repayment of a \$13.5 billion loan, plus interest.

Court Dismisses Lawsuit by Thousands of Immigrants

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) Compelled by a new law, a federal appeals court ordered dismissal of a nationwide lawsuit by thousands of illegal immigrants who claimed they were denied a chance for legal status by the government's legal error.

The lawsuit, filed in 1986, challenged the Immigration and Naturalization Service's policy of denying amnesty — the first step toward legal residency — to any illegal immigrant who had left the United States since 1982 without advance INS approval.



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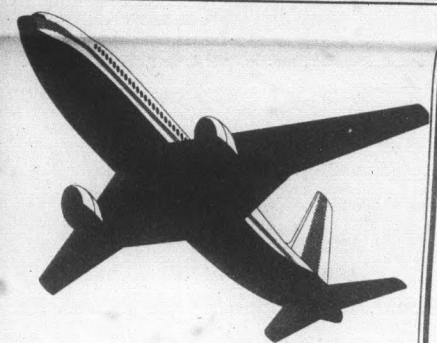


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Campus Life

Due to the lack of space, The *Scribe* was unable to print all portraits of the graduating seniors. However, congratulations to all of them and good luck in their future undertakings



STEPHANIE DLUGAS



TARA BORGSTROM



EARL MASTRI



MOHAMMAD



ALEKSANDRA SIMIC



AMY PRODOMOU &
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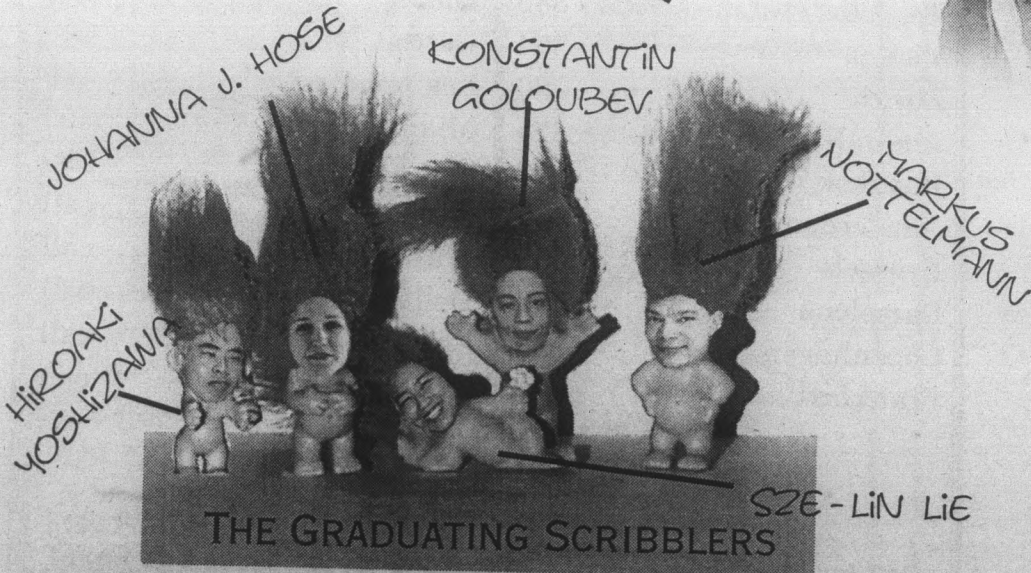


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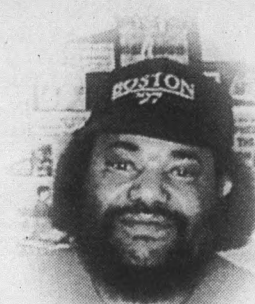
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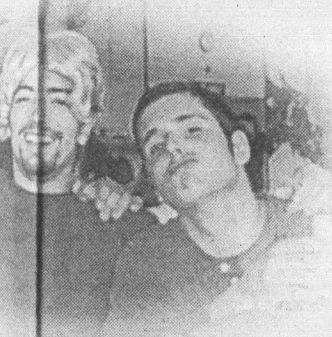


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Major General William Navas:

"I Attended UB's Graduate Program To Be Competitive"

by Nickolai Kralev UB's program.

Six months ago the Connecticut National Guard welcomed a very special guest from the Pentagon—Major General William Navas, director of the U.S. Army National Guard. The reason for the visit to the State's capital was obviously business, but the reason for another visit, to Bridgeport, came unexpectedly for the General's hosts.

Major General Navas was finally coming to the University of Bridgeport. Although he had a graduate degree in management engineering, he had never been to the campus before. He met with President Richard Rubenstein, who, the guest said, was "very gracious."

It was a real adventure back in 1977 for William Navas, a practicing engineer with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Puerto Rico, to go back to school after 12 years. Every Saturday he would leave his house at 4 a.m. to go to a campus in a suburb of San Juan, where the University of Bridgeport had a graduate program. After two long classes, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, Navas would arrive back home at 9 p.m.

"Although demanding, the program was very beneficial and convenient," said Navas. "The professors would fly down to San Juan every Friday evening, so it was a good deal for them. And it was a good deal for us, too, since we had jobs and could not go to school full time."

"The professors were extremely capable," recalled Navas. "The head of the engineering program, Dr. Louis Stier, had worked on the Manhattan nuclear weapons development project during World War II."

Navas had already joined the Puerto Rican National Guard when he enrolled in

UB's program. "One of the reasons for attending the courses UB offered was my ambition to be competitive with my peers in the army," he confessed. "Most officers at my level, lieutenant-colonel, were being sent to graduate school by the Army. But since, as an engineer, I was not on active duty, that was not an option for me. I could use, though, another benefit. As a Vietnam veteran, I had the right of tuition assistance."

Navas commanded a combat engineer company in Vietnam in 1968—three years after he was commissioned in the army upon graduation from college. In 1969, he was summoned back to Puerto Rico.

A year after receiving his master's degree from UB, in 1981, Navas was selected to attend the Inter-America Defense College in Washington, DC. Upon graduation, he was offered a full-time job with the Puerto Rican National Guard.

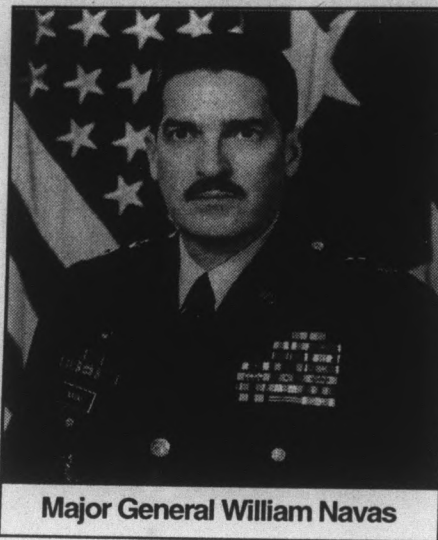
"I left my engineering practice and worked for the Puerto Rican National Guard for almost five years as director of plans and operations," explained Navas.

In 1987, he was promoted to deputy director of the Army National Guard and went to the Pentagon. Another promotion came in three years—to major general and vice-chief of the National Guard Bureau.

From 1992 to 1995 Navas worked for the Department of Defense, but tried to stay away from politics. "I have chosen to be a soldier," he said.

Since October 1995 Major General Navas has been director of the Army National Guard. He has a staff of 1,000 people and manages a \$5.5 billion budget.

Asked about the main threats of the United States today, General Navas said: "During the period after the Cold War, most of our enemies became our friends. The main threats remain the regional conflicts in some parts of the world. We are also facing threats brought in by drugs and



Major General William Navas

terrorism."

The old enemies and new friends are now participants in NATO's Partnership for Peace program, in which the United States is much involved.

"We need to help the emerging democracies," said Major General Navas. "We can benefit from world of peace. Most

of the world adopts democratic institutions, which guarantees a peaceful world."

In two years, the days of the current director of the Army National Guard will be quite peaceful, too. He plans to retire, but still has no idea what he will be doing after that.

"I don't have time to think about a second career," he said.

At least one thing is certain—he will have more time for his family. His wife, Wilda, is in the real-estate business, although she has a degree in health administration. They have two children. Their son, 30, supervises the remodeling and reconstruction of Sheraton hotels, and their daughter, 28, is married in Mexico and works for a new telephone company there.

Major General Navas did promise to think about a doctoral degree from the University of Bridgeport. "It is never late to learn," he said.

S

Understanding Students with Disabilities

by Aurora Lee

The challenges of being a student with disabilities on a college campus was discussed on May 2, 1997 at the Rotaract Club meeting in the Tower Room of the ABC Building.

Patricia P. Hart, President and CEO of Music Arts Center for the Handicapped, was the main speaker of the event. She took the participants through an amazing experiment that helped everyone understand what it is like to have some kind of disability, to be blind in particular.

The first step of the experiment required every participant to put on special masks — "blinders." Next, everybody was given an object, which he or she had to identify without being able to see it. Then everybody was asked to get up and walk around first without any help and then with a cane or a specially trained dog. At the end participants could try the talking calculator and the typing machine for the blind.

Most people think that blind people do not see anything. However, they can visually perceive certain things. For example, blind people can distinguish when it is day and when it is night, as the exercise with blinders demonstrated to the participants of the experiment. To identify objects blind people, more than people who can see, use experience. They also use their ears, sense of smell, and sense of touch more.

Nevertheless, one has a big advantage if he or she has visual memory. That's why people who were not born blind have a better perception of things than people who do not have any visual memory.

However, it is easier to deal with the fact that he or she is blind for a person who was born that way. Blind people have to use their memory very extensively to get around.

According to Patricia P. Hart, blind people have an advantage of not judging people by their external appearance but perceiving everyone as an individual with a unique character. "People with disabilities might do things differently but they do the same things as people who do not have disabilities," she said.

Most people feel uncomfortable having disabilities. They want to be like everyone else. However, you are still you, even if you have disability. This is important to remember when you deal with people who have a disability, or have a disability yourself.

The issue of asking for help and offering help came up as well. People with disabilities have to learn how to ask for help in situations where they need it and also how to deal with being rejected or neglected. On the other hand, people who don't have disabilities have to learn how to offer help. Many participants expressed that they feel uncomfortable offering help because it might hurt the other person's feeling. "Don't be embarrassed to offer you help," said Rick, student of Music and Arts Center for the Handicapped, "It is always nice to know that you are in a friendly environment."

The discussion and the experiment had a deep impact on participants, and everyone left the room with a little more compassion and understanding of people who have a disability.

S

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Promising Projects Of Graduate Students From the Computer Engineering Department

An Internet Controlled Robot system designed by Matanya Elchanani

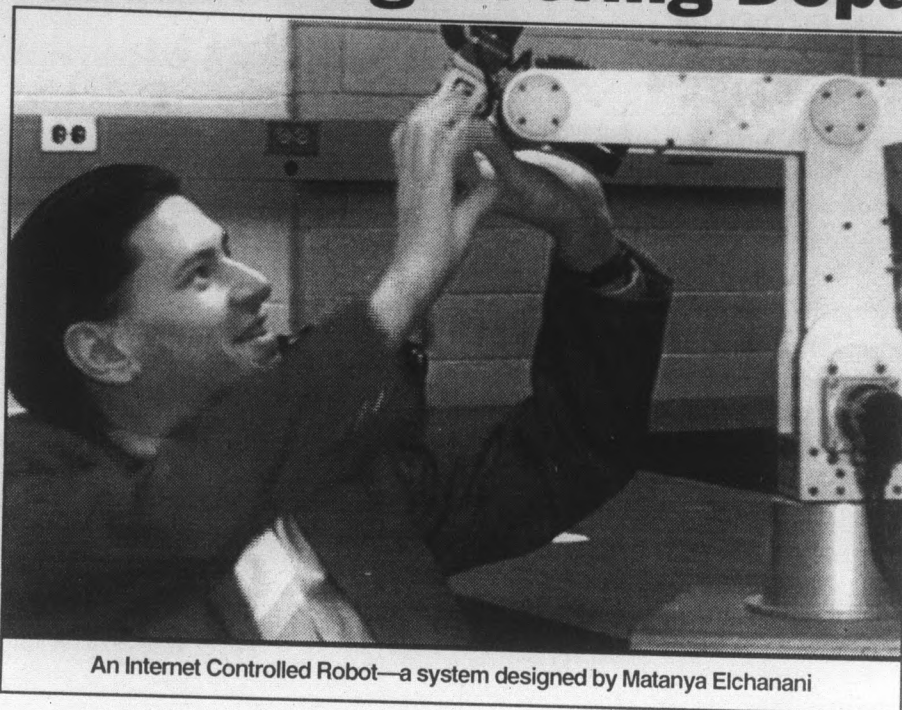
by Shai Bar-Nefy

The Internet age has opened new opportunities to the robotics industry. In a course given by Professor Tarek Sobh, a prominent engineer in the robotics field himself, students design new applications that may expand out of UB into the real world.

Matanya's project let users from all over the world control an arm-robot which is connected to the Internet and located in the RISC lab at Dana Hall. It simply implies that anyone can enter Robi's site(nick name for the robot) and control him (a male of course).

For "normal" people who do not spend their life around computers and chips it seems like an easy and straight forward task, but in fact it is a highly complex design that requires an interdisciplinary knowledge of software and hardware.

The robot is connected to a special controller which is connected to a PC which is connected to the UB server which is connected to Stargazer, our Internet service supplier. For each communication stage Matanya wrote a special code that takes care of a specific activity of the corresponding process. Not only that, but he used three different programming languages.



An Internet Controlled Robot—a system designed by Matanya Elchanani

Future applications for Robi are of great variety. A simple example are vending machines that are controlled and monitored through a telephone lines. Using Matanya principles it will be possible to control those machines through the Internet.

The project fits well into UB plans to supply online education programs. Students from the engineering programs will examine their calculations on Robi from a distance and make correction when they are needed.

Right now Robi is almost the only one of its kind and attracts attention

from scientists all over the world. The potential of robots controlled through the Internet without the intervention of operators is well understood. Later on, Robi will be covered by a live stream video broadcast that will show him during his movement and not only when he reached his destination. For more information, see <http://www.bridgeport.edu/~matanya/robi>

A PC-Based Simulator Software for Robots designed by Abdel-Shakour A. Abuzneid

Unfortunately the full name of Abdel-Shakour's project is "PC-Based Simulator—Controller—Monitor Software for Manipulators and Electromechanical Systems."

Using Abdel-Shakour's application engineers test their robot performances before actually producing it. Since Robots are sophisticated machines and have many factors involved in their performances, engineers need a tool that will monitor and simulate their design before spending time and money on manufacturing the product before it is proven to work well.

The software tool that Abdel-Shakour designed goes all the way up to six degrees of freedom, which means a highly sophisticated robot. The Degrees of freedom define how accurate the motions of the robot are in space.

Like a human arm, the joints are the crucial parts that determine the precision of the movements. Of course, the complexity

See Engineering, page 11

Leader from page 1

director of the Academic Resource Center Roxy Ray, who also happens to be his mother. The award is given every year to the student who best exemplifies the legacy and values of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Scholar-athlete award was presented to Jena Steinle, a player on the women's soccer team and also biology major. The Rookie of the year award was presented to Raul Mihali who wasn't present at the ceremony. The Outstanding Student Organization award went to the Fashion Merchandising club. The Outstanding Commuter award went to two recipients, David Lanzetta and Mark Shilensky. The Outstanding Resident award was presented by David Oestreicher to Marcia Palmeter, a Resident Advisor in Bodine Hall. Palmeter also happens to be the sole pitcher for UB's softball team. Oestreicher mentioned that Palmeter wasn't present at the ceremony as she was in a

softball game that day.

Also, other award recipients were Franck Ajisegebe, the recipient of the Yassir Al Saffar Award, for having bridged the many cultures represented here at UB, Keep UB Beautiful Award was tied between Justin Harding and Kengo Ueda for their efforts in preservation of the surrounding community and the University environment. Outstanding Student—Employee Award was presented to Mohammad Amir and Hui Lin Lim was presented with a newly created award which is to be presented to a student who has been consistently supportive and an eager participant in student life activities.

Graduating Senior, Melissa Glenn, better known as Missy Glenn, was a recipient of two awards. The Alumni Award and the UB Spirit award for her outstanding efforts in contributing to the UB community.

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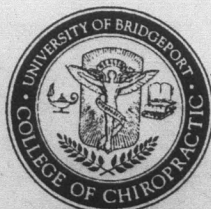
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Miscellaneous

International Relations Club Hosts Special Recognition Dinner and Award Ceremony

by Naing Lynn

On Friday, May 2, a group of students gathered in the lobby of the Student Center to go out and enjoy themselves for an evening of fun. This is for the six months of hard work that they put in for bringing up the biggest event on campus – The 21st Annual International Festival. They left UB around 5:15pm for Red Lobster Restaurant in Bridgeport.

People present were Dawn Valenti, director of international affairs and advisor to the IRC, Tom Zeman, Edina Oestreich, student programming coordinator and a co-advisor to the IRC, David Oestreich, student housing, Janet Merritt, dean of students and her husband Ted Merritt, Ruth deNomme, secretary to the student development office and the members of the International Relations Club Surovi Abeyratne, Mike Bilica, Naing Lynn, Dalia Hernandez, Anuj Shroff, Monalisa Basu, Ashok Regmi, Sheila Joseph, Cor Cin Tan, Mai Mai Lin, and Glorielle Vasquez. Unfortunately, some of the people who were involved with the festival could not show up.

The dinner brought out the cheers and laughter that most of the members of the festival planning committee could not afford during the periods of planning and the festivals. It was the time all of the people in the committee were waiting for. During the dinner members talked about the festival and looked back on the success that was achieved as a result of the cooperation and strong team spirit. Awards certificates were given to each member of the committee for their outstanding achievement and devotion that they contributed towards the festival. All the credits and special thanks for the certificates goes to Dalia Hernandez who

professionally designed the certificates.

Toasts, wishes, and happiness were everywhere but also the heartfelt feeling were shared among the members. Many of us felt that the club was not recognized as much on campus despite the fact that the IRC is the one that arranged the biggest event on campus which put UB on the front page of the Connecticut Post. Also, the club has truly reached out and helped a lot of students from small things like tag sales to arranging trips to places like New York, Washington DC, and Six Flag Great Adventure Park in New Jersey, and hosting Thanksgiving Break Dinner to help out those students who cannot go home, and to those international students who have no one to go to during the breaks. Also it is also one of the very few clubs that is involved with the outside community. IRC members volunteered to go for outreach programs in the local high schools for cultural exchange. All of the members of the IRC were determined to bring the club to recognition next year by trying to get the best student organization award next year.

After the dinner six of the students went to a club in New Haven and enjoyed the night dancing and singing – both in the club and on the UB van – and returned back to UB around one in the morning.

There was no doubt that all had fun and the evening was a memorable one – after all, everything was free. It was a deserving gift and recognition for the six months of hard work that all of the members had to put in and it was paid for by the IRC.

Many thanks are owed to Dawn Valenti, Edina Oestreich, Surovi Abeyratne, and Dalia Hernandez who made this special recognition dinner and award ceremony possible.

S

The Boat Cruise '97

by Ashok Regmi

On April 26, about 160 UB students set off to New Haven for yet another Boat Cruise. "I waited for one year desperately to enjoy this," Ragjendra Sharma a sophomore student was quoted saying.

At 3 p.m., three school buses packed with excited UB students reached New Haven. The ferry had two decks. The lower one was the bar where cocktails were served. As everyone got into the ferry, they were busy eating pizza and those within the legal drinking age enjoyed cocktails.

Music blasted on the Upper deck. Freshman, Edwardo Kim, started his vibrant dancing steps and everyone followed him. Due to the waves, some students who were simply standing began moving and ultimately danced. At a point, all the students present on the boat were dancing

The trip lasted three hours. Freshman Beylul Solomon said, "I enjoyed every moment of it. I am waiting for next year's cruise already!"

Once the Cruise arrived in New Haven again, nobody wanted to get out of the ferry. All shouted in

chorus, "Once again!" Nobody seemed exhausted after three hours of dancing.

Graduating senior Melissa Glenn said, "This year's cruise was the best among all. Students from all classes got involved fully."

The Cruise to Nowhere is an annual UB event organized by SCBOD.

S



UB Students enjoying the ride and picture sessions

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Corrections...

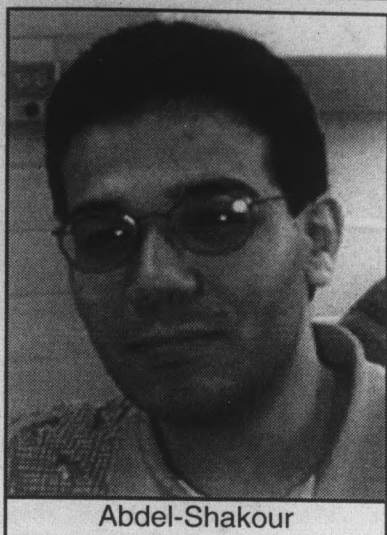
The Scribe would like to make some corrections regarding the Scribe's April 24 issue article entitled, New Assistant Director of Transfer Admissions. The quote "It was disgusting..." should have been quoted as "It was discouraging..." Also, the quote "We are starting high school visits from the Fall Semester" is in regards of the changes to the high school visits. Admissions has been visiting high schools in the past. This Fall, the visits will start earlier than in previous years and also more counselors will be involved.

Are you interested in contributing to the Scribe?
Questions, Comments, Opinions?

Send us your editorials online at scribe@cse.bridgeport.edu

Miscellaneous

Engineering from page 9



Abdel-Shakour

of the robot and control system grows together with the number of joints (the degrees of freedom).

This is a general application, meaning that almost any kind of robot can be tested by it. The engineers will have to specify the

factors and then the application will run the monitor and simulate the future robot. If the results are satisfying then the engineers can go on to the manufacturing stage.

The application leaves engineers the freedom to choose the kind of robot and all the different parameters that they want it to satisfy like degrees of freedom, kind of motors, speed, acceleration, environment, etc. As a result the calculations are long and complex. For example, one of the matrixes required 40 pages of calculations!

There are many applications for the project. The idea of Professor Tarek accelerated rapidly and today there are companies that are interested in the product.



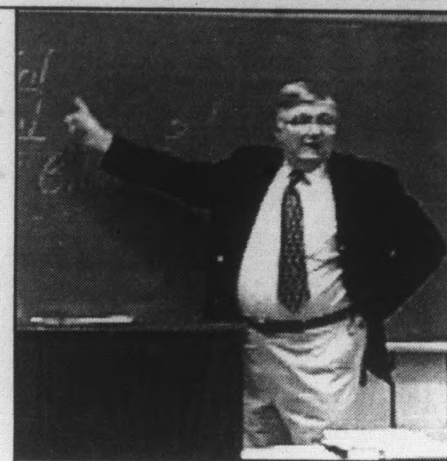
Economics and Politics

by Nadia Ivanova

About 30 UB students along with Dr. Mullings and Dr. Maine, and other guest attended the lecturer on current business and political issues held on May 5 in the Engineering and Technical building.

Dr. Mullings informed the audience about the lecture topics, "Economic Theory and Political Reality," and introduced the guest speaker Dr. Michael Balzano, Jr., President of Balzano Associates in Arlington, VI. Dr. Balzano discussed connections, collisions, and challenges between economics and politics and the role of the government in investments and social services.

The lecture started at 4:30 p.m. and lasted for about an hour and a half. Ganesh



Dr. Balzano delivering his lecture

Srivats, a Business major here at UB complimented it as "greatly contributing to students' general knowledge of current business and social issues." The speaker's presentation was met by an attentive and grateful audience that made this event both informative and pleasant.

Letter to the Editor

A Monstrous Absurdity

by Surovi Abeyratne

The whole precept of awarding and recognizing students for their contributions to UB community is a very noble one. Unfortunately, with each passing year, the Student Leadership Awards Ceremony continues to grow more ridiculous. This year's ceremony was the crowning glory. The absurdity of the ceremony was reflected in the miscalculated choices of students for awards, the careless oversights, the lack of objectivity, undeniable favoritism and general disorganization in the whole selection process.

Let us consider the Rookie of the Year award for example- a clear illustration of a miscalculated choice. This award is usually presented to an outstanding freshman, who has made a significant contribution to the UB community and campus life. This award was presented to Raul Mihali on account of his brilliant academic performance. Mihali's brilliance is exemplified in his taking two graduate courses and I am not trying to minimize his brilliance - I just fail to see how academic excellence, which is an individual trait and student leadership which is a communal tribute are correlated. Whatever happened to Freshman class president and Rotaract Club president Ashok Regmi, who incidentally writes for the Scribe, is a member of both the International Relations Club and the Himalayan Club and was also the MC at the International Festival? Given the fact that Ashok was given a certificate indicates that this was not an oversight. He was perhaps nominated for the award, but why he wasn't made a recipient of it, defeats the whole purpose of the ceremony.

An example of lack of objectivity is

illustrated in Melissa Glen being made recipient of both the Spirit of UB and Alumni award, the latter incidentally she also received last year. Missy Glen truly is the spirit of UB. She is bright, smart, has contributed to the community and is loved by all, but is it really ethical to present her with two awards when there are students just as deserving like Sharon Loh who has spent many sleepless nights in an effort to produce the Scribe on time, has participated in Student Congress, WUBN, Wistarian, SCBOD, Malaysian club etc, or others like Johanna J. Hose who was not even recognized as coeditor of the Scribe?

The outstanding resident award is presented to an outstanding resident student who has best enhanced the quality of life in the residence halls. This award was presented to Marcia Palmeter. Palmeter has undoubtedly enhanced the quality of life in the 7th floor of Bodine Hall, in which she is RA, but the 7th floor of Bodine is not equivalent to Bodine and

Barnum halls. Palmeter was described as being easily accessible and approachable, but in effect she is paid to do this. Therefore she is just completing her side of the economic transaction well. Where did the real voluntary contributors like Dare Owalabe(RHA president) and Ajeboye Adebola(President of Bodine Hall Government) feature in all this? Owalabe was instrumental in installing a fax machine for the convenience of the students and also pool tables in the basement. Bola-president of Bodine Hall, had ballot boxes posted on all the floors so students could indicate their complaints and preferences, consistently held movie nights so student could relax, and organized a variety of games and tournaments for the students to enliven resident life. In effect, he surpassed himself in completing duties as president of Bodine Hall and did not even get a certificate of recognition.

Please understand that I am not trying to be petty. I have no reason to be- I was recognized as a student leader. Neither is

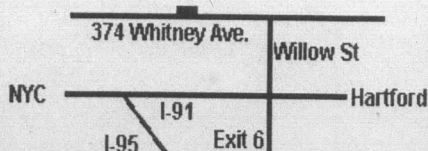
this editorial a personal attack or character assassination of any individual. I am just writing about an issue I feel strongly about-justice. To all those students out there who feel hurt and disillusioned about the way they were mistreated I can only quote president Rubenstein in saying "be a Samurai warrior and do what you have to do to the best of your ability without always expecting recognition." My advice to the officials in charge of selecting faculty and administration members for the selection committee, is to incorporate members who are better representatives of the students. Granted, a few of the students who received awards like Anuj Shroff, Monalisa Basu and Franck Ajisegbe were very good and obvious choices. The Awards selection committee should take this opportunity to recognize all students who have contributed to campus life and when in doing that rise above personal preferences.

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Sports

Awards Ceremony Marks the End of Athletic Season

by Chhin Chhay

"You are all part of the excellence we are now celebrating," said Dean of Admissions Dr. Suzanne Wilcox in her introductory greetings to all UB athletes and coaches present at the 1996-97 Athletics Awards Ceremony. The event took place on May 4, at the Arnold Bernhard Center's Tower Room.

Dr. Wilcox went on to express her satisfaction from the increased number of application which fact she partly attributed to the improved quality of the athletic programs at UB.

Prior to the presentation of the Senior Athlete Awards, Mr. Bob Baird, director of athletics, thanked the 19 graduating seniors



Angela Varney

for their contribution to the university community and wished them good luck in finding their path in life. He also reminded the audience that although the University of Bridgeport's athletics now lacked the quality and reputation of the programs

at the big universities, it had a strong tradition. He gave many examples of All-Americans, major leaguers, and hall-of-famers who started their professional careers at UB.

"It doesn't matter that the baseball team didn't have had a winning record since Nixon was President," said Mr. Baird. "The wins and losses are not really important. It is the people, the places, the things you have accomplished."

Student Activities

SIMBA Members to Do Financial Market Analysis for Security Company

by Nikola Dimitrov

After months of intensive studying, the Strategic Investment and Mortgage Banking Alliance (SIMBA) has a gratifying occasion to celebrate: several club members recently received highly attractive job offers for the summer. After passing a series of interviews, in which their critical thinking abilities and knowledge in the financial field were tested, the students got hired by a securities firm to do financial market research and analysis. The firm will also sponsor them to sit for the Securities Series-7 and -3 examinations, which will enable them to work in the sales of securities, as well as to perform other various functions in the financial market.

"This is a great success for us," said Bold Bataar, a member of the club. "We started preparing for the Series Seven Exam without a clear opportunity to find a sponsoring firm, relying entirely on our marketing efforts."

This big opportunity comes as a well-deserved reward for the students' efforts. Although SIMBA did not register any public events during the year, the club has performed an impressive amount of academic work. The students have covered,

on an individual and group basis, a variety of topics including the basics of capital and financial markets, securities and debt analysis, and the functions of the secondary market.

When SIMBA was organized last fall, the Student Congress did not deem the club worthy of any financial assistance and assigned it no budget. Nevertheless, the newborn club, driven by the enthusiasm and persistence of its founders, rode on to attract a growing number of members. Most students enrolled in SIMBA feeling the need of finding practical applications for the knowledge they received in the classroom. "The skills in the financial and securitization field that we acquire in SIMBA will make us much more marketable upon graduation," said Rudy Bauer, who majors in computer engineering.

The club acknowledges the immense help it received by faculty members from the School of Business. "Many of our accomplishments would have been unthinkable if it had not been for the cooperation of Prof. McGannon who donated two copies of the SEC-7 study manuals to our club," said Nikolay Belyov, president of SIMBA. The club's interaction

with Prof. Robert Maine's seminar in neural nets and generic algorithms has also proved extremely valuable for the club members. "We are very thankful to our advisor, Dr. Maine, for dedicating so much of his time to the club," said Mr. Belyov.

SIMBA symbolizes one of UB's most outstanding features—the international diversity. There are students with various cultural and educational backgrounds, and every meeting is accompanied by a heated exchange of different, sometimes opposing ideas. Still, Todor Delev, vice-president of SIMBA maintains that the teamwork is what actually keeps the club going. "Discipline and motivation are most important for us," said Mr. Delev. "Although we work on every project together, there is a strict delegation of

Coaches Awards

John Oberg - Men Soccer
Lori Tyler - Women Soccer
Vondell Wright - Men Basketball
Dana Williams - Women Basketball
Angela Vasney - Gymnastics
Lauren Geerds - Softball
Vinny Arjune - Baseball

ECAC Scholar Athlete Award

Angela Varney

Honda Corporation Award

Angela Varney

Other Awards

Women's Gymnastics

USA Gymnastics All- America

Angela Varney (vault, floor exercise)
Stephanie Dlugas (vault)

Women's Soccer

All-New England Collegiate Conference

First Team

Jessica Lujick-goal

Second Team

Jennifer King - Forward
Lori Tyler - Back

Men's Basketball

All-New England Collegiate Conference

Second Team

Vondell Wright - Guard

Women's Basketball

All-New England Collegiate Conference

Rookie of the Year

Angelica Kadenas - Center

Second Team

Dana Williams - Guard

All-Tournament Team

Dana Williams - Guard

responsibility, and a friendly competition of who is going to do the best job."

Under Dr. Maine's guidance, SIMBA is now focusing its efforts on such areas as mortgage banking, securities analysis, risk management and financial forecasting all of which require substantial knowledge in mathematics and finance. Although the club is open to all students, maintaining a membership is a challenging task. "We welcome everybody who is ready to get heavily involved," said Adjunct Instructor David Lanzetta, co-advisor of SIMBA. "Some of the students at UB are, in terms of academic ability, comparable with their peers at the nation's leading universities. We want to utilize this potential," Mr. Lanzetta added.